

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Q3 A stocker includes a first sealing member for stocking an object to be stocked, an atmosphere control device for controlling an internal atmosphere of the first sealing member to a first atmosphere of an inert gas, and a transfer device for transporting an object to be stocked to an exposure apparatus using an F₂ excimer laser or receiving the object to be stocked from the exposure apparatus while the object to be stocked is shielded from an external atmosphere of the first sealing member.
